

Amendments to Specification

Please replace paragraphs [0015] and [0016] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0015] As shown in FIG. 7, the concave groove formed at the end of the handle lever 11 receives the bearing part 17a formed on the outer surface of the side plate 17 to rotatably support the handle lever 11. In this structure, the abutting stopper 11a of the handle lever 11 abuts against the abutting stopper 7b of the contact holder 7, thereby preventing the operation handle 9 from moving to the "off" position. In this state, when the operator intends to further move the operation handle 9 by applying a large force thereon, the concave groove at the end of the handle lever 11 moves upwardly out of the bearing part 17a. Accordingly, the operation handle 9 moves to the "off" position around the abutting point of the abutting stoppers 11a and 7b.

[0016] In the configuration described above, when the operation handle 9 moves to the "off" position, the abutting stoppers 7b, 11a abut against each other after the action line of the switching spring 16 passes the dead point DP shown in FIG. 7, so that the abutting stoppers 7b, 11a do not interfere with each other in the normal "on" and "off" operations. Further, in the state that the contact points are stuck, when the operator releases the operation handle 9 at a position in which the abutting stoppers 7b, 11a abut against each other to prevent the operation handle 9 from moving, the operation handle 9 returns to the "on" position.

Please replace a paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] In order to achieve the objects described above, according to the present invention, a circuit breaker includes a fixed contact; a movable contact disposed in a rotary-type contact holder; a switching device; an operation handle; and an over-current tripping device. The operation handle is operated to open and close main-circuit contact points through the switching device. The switching device includes a handle lever connected to the

operation handle and having an end portion as a rotational center thereof; a toggle linkage having an upper toggle link and a lower toggle link and disposed between the contact holder and a latch of a tripping mechanism; a switching spring placed between the handle lever and ~~an arm~~ a connecting point pin of the toggle linkage; and a side plate for holding the components. The circuit breaker further includes means for preventing the operation handle from moving from an "on" position to an "off" position when the main-circuit contact points are stuck. The means includes abutting stoppers or first stoppers formed on a cross bar of the contact holder and the handle lever facing the cross bar, respectively; and a second stopper for preventing the handle lever from moving around an abutting point of the abutting stoppers to the "off" position.

Please replace a paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] FIG. 3 shows a state in which the operation handle 9 is moved to the "off" position, and the contact points are opened ("off" state). In this state, the toggle linkage 12 is folded into a shape of the symbol "<", and the action line of the switching spring 16 is located on the right side ("off"-position side) relative to the dead point DP. Incidentally, in a normal state in which the contact points are not stuck together, when the operator moves the operation handle 9 to the "on" or "off" position, the ~~switching~~ handle lever 11 and the contact holder 7 are both rotated in the same direction. Accordingly, the abutting stopper 11a of the handle lever 11 does not abut against the abutting stopper 7b of the contact holder 7. Further, the second stopper 17b faces an end face 11c of the circular arc member of the handle lever 11 around the rotational center O, so that the stopper 17b does not block the operation handle 9.